

From a broad perspective, land surveyors are caretakers of boundaries; being experts in legal (property) descriptions and determining locations on the face of the earth.

In Hennepin County, our team of 20 in the Survey Office serves our residents in many ways. One of the primary responsibilities of the Office is to maintain the Public Land Survey System monuments as PLSS monuments are the basis for all property descriptions. There are approximately 2500 PLSS monuments within the County, and we make certain that they are in place and available for use internally and by our primary PLSS participants, private land surveyors. Our office also ensures statutory compliance for subdivision plats within the County and are effective partners with stakeholders in that process. Our Office is heavily involved in properties that Hennepin County either owns, will be purchasing, or has an interest in. Some examples are: being an integral part of the process to purchase hotels during the pandemic, involvement in the location of right-of-way boundaries and conservation easements, and being part of upgrades at Hennepin County facilities like libraries. Our Office also maintains the 440,000 tax parcel geometries that are used extensively in business processes internal and external to the County. This highly accurate GIS layer is used by internal departments, by members of the public via the Interactive Property Map, by municipalities for their processes, and in special projects like Mapping Prejudice.

The graphic below indicates a few of the partners that we work with.

